I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail, in an envelope addressed to: MS Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 2313-1450, on the date shown below.

Docket No.: D0188.70162US01

(PATENT)

#### IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Sancoff et al.

Conf. No.: 4207

Application No.: 10/014,991

Art Unit: 3731

Filed: December 11, 2001

Examiner: Jackson, Gary

For: MEDICAL SUTURE INSTRUMENT AND

METHOD OF USE

#### WRITTEN STATEMENT OF CHANGE OF ENTITY STATUS

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This letter is being sent to notify the United States Patent and Trademark Office that the entity status of the above referenced patent application is being changed to <u>large</u> entity.

If you need anything further, please contact the undersigned attorney or agent. Thank you for your assistance with this matter.

Dated: September 28, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

Walt Norfleet

Registration No.: 52,078

Robert E. Hunt

Registration No.: 39,231

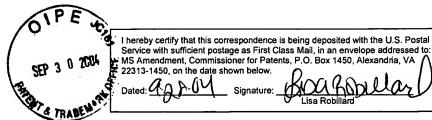
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# AMENDMENT IN RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION

MS Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

## **INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS**

In response to the Office Action dated April 28, 2004, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 10 of this paper.